

S H A F T E S B U R Y B O R O U G H C O U N C I L

1973

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND


PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



Medical Officer of Health: ESTHER JACKSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.,
Public Health Inspector: H.C. WATKIN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

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SHAFTESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
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BLEKE STREET
SHAFTESBURY

Telephone number of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
Sturminster Newton 72651
(STD Code: 0258)

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Miss H.M. Llewelyn Jones
Vice-Chairman: Dr G.W. Tapper
Councillor S.J.J. Mansbridge (The Mayor)
Alderman E.W. Macdonald
Councillor E.R. Manley
Councillor L. Williams
Councillor Miss M.L.B. Young O.B.E.

STAFF - PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (joint appointment)	- Esther Jackson, M.B., Ch.B., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.
Clerk	- Mrs. A. Smith
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR and SURVEYOR	- H.C. Watkin, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Certificate of Meat and other Foods.
ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR (Seconded from Shaftesbury R.D.C. Half-time)	- R.A. Leach, M.A.P.H.I., M.I.M., Certificate of Meat and Other Foods.
Clerical Staff	- None of the office staff is employed exclusively on public health duties.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1973

The production of the Annual Report has been a statutory responsibility of every Medical Officer of Health. In recent years it has been customary to attribute to the Chief Public Health Inspector the parts of the Annual Report for which he has been mainly responsible.

The Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health and Social Security, when he wrote reminding Medical Officers of Health of the need to produce an Annual Report for 1973, stated-

"Annual Reports have always been - for Councils, for Departments, and for others who refer to them - a valued source of detailed information about public health matters, the progress achieved and problems encountered from year to year in the area. However, the reorganisation of the Health Services and of local government make them inappropriate in their present form and, accordingly, the Annual Reports for 1973 will be the last of their kind. The statutory requirement for the Reports ceases with the repeal of the Public Health Officers' Regulations on 1 April 1974 under the Local Government Act 1972.

"Clearly the coming reorganisation of local government involves difficulties for the production of Reports for 1973. One problem is that the vital statistics for inclusion in Reports are not available from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys before April."

The services provided by the Dorset Local Health Authority continued as in 1972, so the details given in the 1972 Annual Report apply for 1973 with only one addition. The British Red Cross Society, who have for so long run the chiropody service for the elderly, have now handed over the organisation of the chiropody clinics to the Local Health Authority, although Red Cross members still help at local clinics.

During the year, your Medical Officer of Health and Chief Public Health Inspector have been involved with planning for the changeover on the 1st April 1974. However, some of the work of the Public Health Inspectorate, vigilant to safeguard standards of hygiene and prevent environmental pollution is recorded in the pages which follow.

Because of the need for speed in producing the Report, the format is based on that for 1972.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

No. of Inspectors appointed under the Act	1
Estimated No. of Premises subject to registration.....	83
No. of Premises registered	79
No. of Premises inspected	57
No. of inspections carried out	76

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors) -

Premises (1)	No. on Register (2)	No. of Inspec- tions (3)	No. of Written Notices (4)	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	NIL	NIL		
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	29	11	1	
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises)	NIL			
TOTAL:	29	11	1	

2. Cases in which Defects were found -

Particulars (1)	No. of cases found (2)	No. of cases remedied. (3)	No. referred to HMI. (4)	No. referred by HMI. (5)
Sanitary Conveniences (S7) (b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1
TOTAL:	1	1	-	1

There were no cases in which prosecutions were instituted.

PART VIII of the Act

Outwork

41 outworkers were employed in the making, cleaning and washing, etc., of wearing apparel.

THE CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

No action was taken or called for during the year.

RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES ACT

There are no premises in the Borough registered under the Act.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT

There are no premises registered under the Act.

SWIMMING BATHS

There is one swimming bath to which the public have access. This is Council owned, and is maintained and regularly checked for water purity by Council workmen.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

One convenience, under the Town Hall, is supplied with cold water and paper towels; one, at Coppice Street Car Park, is supplied with cold water and a warm air dryer. Plans have been prepared for extensions, including facilities for invalid persons, but these have been put in abeyance due to Government restrictions.

The third convenience, at Bleke Street Recreation Ground, has a hot water supply provided.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The Joint scheme is operating satisfactorily.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

No. of licensed premises	2
No. of inspections made	3

SANITATION OF SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SCHOOL CANTEEN HYGIENE)

These have been regularly inspected during the year, and found to be satisfactory.

HOUSING

Total number of houses in the district	1509
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Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:

Total No. of dwelling houses inspected during the year:-

No. of inspections made	12
No. of informal notices served	6
No. of informal notices complied with	3
No. of Statutory Notices served	Nil
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	Nil
No. of houses reported under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1958	2

Action taken by the Local Authority in respect of such houses:-

Demolition Orders made	Nil
Undertakings accepted for:-	
(a) Closure	Nil
(b) Reconditioning	1
(c) Other Action	Nil

No. of houses included in Clearance Areas during the year:- Nil

Improvement Grants

No. of applications received during the year:-

	(a) Standard	(b) Discretionary
No. granted	-	4
No. pending	1	2

New Houses

No. of new dwellings provided by private enterprise during the year:	87
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No. of new dwellings provided by the Local Authority during the year:	12 Flats
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Re-Housing

Total No. of families housed during the year by the Local Authority: 26

HOUSING - continued

Housing Applications

No. of persons who are applicants for a Council House at the end of the year:-

(a) resident within the district	56
(b) resident without the district	39

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

1. Milk

The Milk & Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

No. of 'dealers' subject to registration by the District Council	10
No. of 'dairies' in the district subject to registration	Nil
No. of 'distributors' subject to registration	1

Milk & Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959 - Regulation 19-20

No action was called for or taken during the year.

2. Other Food Premises

(a) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Details of food premises subject to the above, grouped in categories of trade carried on in them and including the following information for each category separately:-

Trade	No. of Premises	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16	No. of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies.	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Hotels	5	5	5	5
Cafes	3	3	3	3
Public Houses	9	9	9	9
Clubs	3	3	3	3
Church Halls	3	3	3	3
Canteens - Schools	5	5	5	5
Confectioners	4	9	4	4
Meat and Fish	5	5	5	5
Grocers	4	4	4	4
Mixed Stores	4	4	4	4
Boarding Schools	3	3	3	3
Food Factories	2	2	2	2
Others	6	6	6	6

No. of such premises inspected during the year	47
No. of inspections carried out	88

(b) No. of food premises subject to registration under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 in respect of:-

(i) Ice Cream	17
(ii) Sausages and Prepared Meats	3
(iii) Fish and Chips	2

No. of samples of ice cream submitted for Methylene Blue Test: NIL.

(c) Condemned food is buried at the refuse tip.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIED - continued

Slaughterhouses

There are no licensed slaughterhouse or knackers yards in the Borough.

Other Food

The following quantities of food were condemned:-

123 lbs. of pre-packed Bacon
approximately 3 cwts. of frozen foods, due to breakdown
of refrigerator.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS (INCLUDING HOUSING) CARRIED OUT

Total No. of Inspections (under all headings)	327
Total No. of Informal notices served	26
Total No. of Informal notices complied with	21
Total No. of Statutory notices served	Nil
Total No. of Statutory notices complied with	Nil
No. of prosecutions	1

